

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 262910

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /012 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 262910

TOSEC 598

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO USUN, DAMASCUS, NOV 28,  
FROM CAIRO RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 9654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EG, USUN,SY

SUBJ: ASAD'S STATEMENT TO WALDHEIM RE UNDOF RENEWAL

1. AT FAHMY'S DINNER FOR WALDHEIM LAST NIGHT, THE SYG SAID HE WANTED TO TELL US ABOUT HIS TALK OF THE PREVIOUS DAY WITH ASAD. HE RELATED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD EXPRESSED SOME DOUBTS ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF HIS INTENDED TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST AT THIS TIME. WHEN WALDHEIM INDICATED IN A MESSAGE TO ASAD THAT THERE MIGHT BE NO NEED TO COME, ASAD IMMEDIATELY REPLIED INSISTING THE SYG DO SO.

2. IN DAMASCUS, ASAD RECEIVED WALDHEIM WITH KHADDAM PRESENT. AFTER RECALLING THAT KHADDAM HAD EARLIER TOLD THE SYG THAT SYRIA DID NOT WISH TO RENEW THE UNDOF MANDATE, ASAD SAID THAT, AS A RESULT OF (A) WALDHEIM'S TWO MESSAGES AND HIS PRESENT VISIT, (B) A MESSAGE HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE SECRETARY, (C) THE DRAFT UNDOF RESOLUTION WORKED OUT BY SISCO AND THE SYRIAN PERMREP, AND (D) MESSAGE HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE EGYPTIANS, HE HAD DECIDED TO RENEW UNDOF FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS. WALDHEIM OPINED THAT HIS VISIT TO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 262910

SYRIA PROVIDED ASAD WITH THE "FACE SAVING" DEVICE THAT THE SYRIAN

PRESIDENT NEEDED TO REVERSE HIS EARLIER POSITION.

3. IN INDICATING HIS WILLINGNESS TO RENEW UNDOF, ASAD HAD STRESSED THE NEED FOR PROGRESS ON THE SYRIAN-ISRAELI FRONT DURING THIS PERIOD. ASAD WOULD NOT RPT NOT COMMIT HIMSELF TO RENEWING UNDOF AFTER THE UPCOMING SIX MONTHS.

4. WALDHEIM DEPARTED THIS MORNING FOR NEW YORK BY WAY OF ROME.

5. NOTE: FAHMY HAD INVITED THE FIVE AMBASSADORS FROM THE PERMENT UNSC MEMBERS TO THE DINNER FOR WALDHEIM. FOUR WERE PRESENT, BUT THE PRC AMBASSADOR DECLINED. EGYPTIANS BELIEVED PRC AMBASSADOR DID NOT WANT WISH BE IN SMALL GATHERING WITH HIS SOVIET COLLEAGUE. EILTS UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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